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Reply To: Tampa Office

31353 U.S. PTO 31 10/764311 as 31 012304

January 23, 2004

MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 **SMALL ENTITY**

Re:

New Application of Holger Lubatschowski, Tammo Ripken and Uwe Oberh id

"CONTROL DEVICE FOR A SURGICAL LASER"

Our Ref.: 3968.106

Dear Sir:

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Attached hereto is the application identified above, including the German language specification, claims, abstract, one (1) sheet of formal drawings and a Preliminary Amendment. The executed Declaration and Power of Attorney will be filed at a later date.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

TOTAL FILING FEE\$ 450.00

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$ 450.00 is attached. Please charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-0877. The Commissioner is hereby

Commissioner for Patents January 23, 2004 Page 2

authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and §1.17 that may be required during the entire pendency of the application, except for the issue fee, to said Account.

Assertion is hereby made that the inventors qualifies as independent inventors as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled "CONTROL DEVICE FOR A SURGICAL LASER" described in the specification filed herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

PENDORF & CUTLIFF Attorneys for Applicants

Stephan A. Pendorf Registration No. 32,665

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: EV392066936US

DATE OF DEPOSIT: January 23, 2004

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing cover letter including the German language specification, claims, abstract, one (1) sheet of formal drawings, a Preliminary Amendment, and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: ATTN: MAIL STOP PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. B x 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application, except for the issue fee, without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

Bonnie L. Horst